



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

A. Costa, et al.

Serial No.: 09/876,364

Filed: June 7, 2001

For: VESSELS AND COVERS

GROUP ART UNIT: 1744

EXAMINER: unknown

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September 11, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 14077/257986

Per my copy and this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Don W. Furrer

Signature

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants identify the materials listed below and on the modified form PTO-1449 accompanying this submission:

U.S. PATENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Date</u>
5,128,034	Kool	July 7, 1992
4,316,801	Cooper	February 23, 1982

Copies of the listed materials are enclosed. Applicants do not concede that the identified materials, or any of them, constitute prior art within the meaning of the United States patent laws.

Applicants are submitting prior to receipt of an Office Action concerning the merits of the claimed invention and accordingly believe no fee is due. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

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Alternatively, Applicants state that each above-listed document was cited in a communication dated August 30, 2002 from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

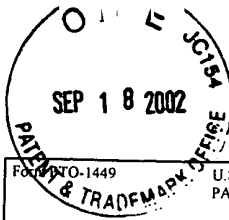
Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 14077/257986

SERIAL NO.: 09/876,364

MATERIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT: A Costa, *et al.*

FILING DATE: June 7, 2001

GROUP: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,128,034	7/7/92	Kool			
	4,316,801	2/23/82	Cooper			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

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OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.